

## TANOAK/MANZANITA/COMMON BEARGRASS

*Lithocarpus densiflorus*/*Arctostaphylos*/*Xerophyllum tenax*

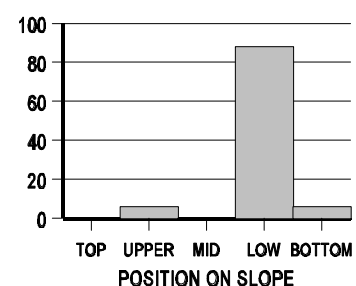
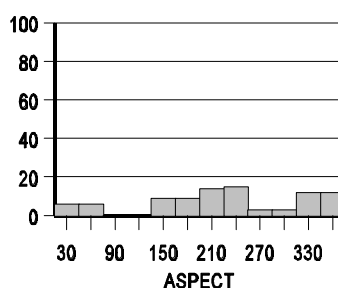
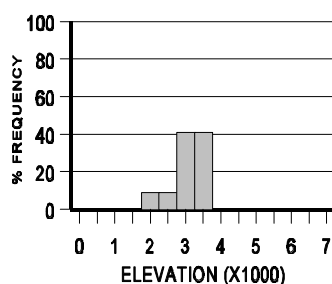
LIDE3/ARCTO3/XETE (N=17; BLM=17)



Distribution. This Association is found east of the coastal crest in the Grants Pass Resource Area, Medford District, Bureau of Land Management, and the Illinois Valley and Galice Ranger Districts, Siskiyou National Forest. It rarely occurs in the Glendale Resource Area. All other known occurrences are east of Range 11 West.

Distinguishing Characteristics. The complement of species indicates that soils, although not always ultramafic, are at the basic end of the gradient, or may be mixed with ultramafics such as serpentine, dunite, or peridotite. This Association occurs at relatively high elevations for the Series (3300 feet) and has a small elevational range. It is one of the coolest and driest tanoak associations.

Soils. Soils are often reddish and basic. Based on 17 samples, average depth is at least greater than 16 inches. Textures are silt loams and sandy loams with some sandy clay loams. Rock fragment content, mostly gravel, averages 56 percent.



Environment. Variability in elevation is low. About 70 percent of the sites occur between about 3000 and 3700 feet. Slopes average about 40 percent. Sites occur on all aspects, but slightly more often on those facing north. Average annual temperature is about 47 degrees F and average annual precipitation is about 68 inches, the second lowest rate for the Series. Manzanita species indicate dry sites, but they can also invade severely disturbed moist sites. In this case, they indicate the site's lack of available moisture, as the precipitation rate reflects.

Vegetation Composition and Structure. Total species richness, very low for the Series, is 16. Site productivity is limited by the influence of basic (occasionally ultramafic) parent material and shallow soils. Douglas-fir usually dominates the overstory and ponderosa pine may also be present. Its presence indicates that the ultramafic influence is weak. On serpentine, a common ultramafic parent material, Jeffrey pine is almost exclusively the dominant pine. The reddish soils and the occurrence of squawcarpet on nearby cutbanks is an indication of the high iron and magnesium content of the soil. The shrub layer is dominated by manzanita species. Manzanita species are indicative of hot, dry sites. They may also be a result of repeated or intense disturbance. Although many sites have been burned or disturbed, the integration of parent materials and climate support a unique complement of species in this Association. Common beargrass is the most constant herb present. Common prince's-pine and whipplevine are commonly present.

Common name	Code	Constancy	Cover	Avg. Richness
<u>Overstory trees</u>				2
Douglas-fir	PSME	100	37	
Ponderosa pine	PIPO	40	6	
Sugar pine	PILA	35	23	
Knobcone pine	PIAT	29	24	
<u>Understory trees</u>				5
Tanoak	LIDE3	100	24	
Douglas-fir	PSME	94	12	
Golden chinquapin	CACH6	82	23	
Canyon live oak	QUCH2	65	31	
Sugar pine	PILA	59	5	
Pacific madrone	ARME	53	7	
<u>Shrubs</u>				2
Greenleaf manzanita	ARPA6	65	20	
Whiteleaf manzanita	ARVI4	35	17	
Baldhip rose	ROGY	47	1	
Hairy honeysuckle	LOHI2	24	2	
Hairy manzanita	ARCO3	6	20	
<u>Herbs</u>				7
Common beargrass	XETE	71	18	
Common prince's-pine	CHUM	65	2	
Whipplevine	WHMO	53	1	
Rattlesnake-plantain	GOOB2	47	1	